Prison Abolition in Five Paragraphs....

Prison abolitionists oppose the prevailing cultural idea that caging and controlling people makes everyone safe. Their goals aren't to improve the prison system, but rather, to shrink the system into non-existence by dealing with the causes of the harm that is called "crime" in our communities.

Even the worst kinds of harm do not happen without a reason. Putting people in cages does not solve any of the problems that lead to harm, like poverty, mental illness, and violence. Separating people from their families, children, and communities, and isolating them in abusive and violent environments make these problems even worse.

In order to reduce harm, we must change the social and economic conditions in which those harms take place. The best way to reduce harm is by insuring that everyone has his or her basic needs met—including food, housing, health care, education, and meaningful work. Communities where these basic needs are met have the lowest rates of violence.

Prison abolitionists want public funding redirected from policing and prisons to social programs that support the self-determination of communities, families, and individuals.

Prisons will never prevent the reasons for crime.

Wisconsin Books to Prisoners
1202 Williamson St. #1
Madison, WI 53703
wisconsinbookstoprisoners.org

The

illustrated

PRISON QUIZ

•• Rated X for Violence ••

This quiz is intended for educational purposes, not entertainment. A gallows humor crops up, which may seem inappropriate, but truly, it masks the author's incredulity that this ancient idea of retributive justice—practiced in all its savagery in the US—is still assumed and defended by the great majority as a social necessity.

Prisons and all the men, women, and children inside them aren't part of the landscape of our thoughts or attention. Most of us rarely, if ever, think about what these people endure day after day after day in an environment rife with anger, resentment, enforced purposelessness, and violence.

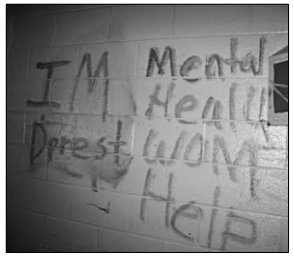
This zine was written to summon your attention to this catastrophic situation, and to the absurdity that state-sanctioned violence is seen as a cure for violence .

All the information herein was based on data collected within the last 7 years. The author encourages you to do your own fact verification.

A few sources of valuable information and/or data can be found here:

aclu.org
bop.gov – Federal Bureau of Prisons
criticalresistance.org
drugpolicy.org
ejig.org – Equal Justice Initiative
incarceratedworkers.org
prisonlegalnews.org
prisonpolicy.org
sentencingproject.org
splcenter.org – Southern Poverty Law Center
themarshallproject.org
usprisonculture.com
wisconsinwatch.org

h. A mentally ill prisoner in St. Clair Correctional Facility, Alabama, circa 2013. In 2018, St. Clair was the most violent prison in Alabama, with the country's highest prison homicide rate.



The photograph at right and read, in part, "I ask every-one for help. was taken at St. Clair in 2018. It was painted with blood I'm [depressed]. Mental Health [won't] help."

i. The Statesville Correctional Center in IL, closed in 2016, was the last prison in the US that was based on the infamous panopticon prison design (1843) by the English theorist Jeremy Bentham. The panopticon, literally 'the all-seeing place', was a prison and a system of control constructed from a circular array of cells. Each cell had a small window in the back that illuminated prisoners from behind, allowing guards to view them continuously from an observation tower in the center. The tower had shutters to prevent the prisoners from seeing the guard, so as to allow surreptitious one-way observation of every prisoner. Given that prisoners could not know when they were being watched, the theory was that they would be then be motivated to act (constrain their behavior) as though they were being watched at all times. By seeing without being seen, authorities exponentially expanded their control through the fear of their presence, which was greater than their actual physical capacity to enforce its rule.

j. A mural in the courtyard of Halden prison in Norway by graffiti artist Dolk. To ease the psychological burdens of imprisonment, the planners of Halden, opened in 2010, spent roughly $1 million on paintings, photography and light installations. Officials hope the art—along with creative outlets like drawing classes and wood workshops—will give inmates "a sense of being taken seriously."

Halden is spread over 75 acres of forested land. The facility boasts amenities like a sound studio, jogging trails, educational programs, and a freestanding two-bedroom house where inmates can host their families during overnight visits. "In the Norwegian prison system, there's a focus on human rights and respect," says Are Hoidal, the prison's governor. "We don't see any of this as unusual."

48. Sam Cowe, the author of this delightful list, is a Correctional Lieutenant currently working as at Calipatria State Prison in California. Obviously, though he hasn't lost his sense of "humor", he's lost his humanity *and doesn't even know it*. He invites questions or comments: HeySarge2008@gmail.com.

49. Police and correctional officers. Studies have found that a minimum of 40% of families of officers have experienced some type of domestic violence. This can include anything from harassment and stalking to homicide. That's well above the 10 percent of the population as a whole. Correctional officers also experience high stress levels, burnout and a variety of other mental health-related consequences as a result of their jobs.

50. All of them.

43. The pay scales in WI prisons are as follows: $0.09 - $0.42 per hour for regular maintenance jobs and $0.23 - $1.15 per hour for the lucky few (459 prisoners out of a total of 23,000) who have jobs in state-owned businesses aka "Badger State ". These include jobs in industry such as making office and detention furniture, metal stamping (license plates), and recycling wheelchairs as well as agriculture work such as milking cows and raising steers on state-owned farms.

44. *a*. 3.5 oz. of pepperoni 14 hours
b. no-shank fingertip toothbrush 2 hours
c. 2 Twinkies 5 hours
d. Gillette Sensor Razor 59 hours
e. Beef bouillon, 3 pk. 8 hours

45. Sloppy Joe – 3 fl. oz . 130 calories
MF Bun – 1 each 183 calories
Potato chips – 1 oz. 158 calories
Beets – 4 fl. oz. 37 calories
Banana – 1 100 calories
Skim milk – 8 fl. oz. 91 calories

Total calories 699 calories

46. The most frequently requested book from book to prisoner projects is a collegiate dictionary. With the exception of the book on surfing all other books and topics are frequently requested. The fact that so many books on trades and how to start a business are requested reflects the interest prisoners have in trying to prepare to be productive members of their community when they re-enter society; conversely, it reveals the scarcity of rehabilitative programing within prisons.

47. a. A SWAT team in the US location undisclosed.

b. The New Mexico State Penitentiary riot, which took place in1980, in the state's maximum-security prison south of Santa Fe, was one of the most violent prison riots in the history of the American correctional system: 33 inmates died and more than 200 inmates were treated for injuries. None of the 12 officers taken hostage was killed, but seven suffered serious injuries.

c. Prison hallway after the Lucasville Prison Uprising in Ohio in 1993. The ensuing standoff between prisoners and law enforcement lasted 11 days. Three of five Lucasville prisoners who were deemed to be the organizers were sentenced to death for the riot.

d. Wapole, MA circa 1960.

e. Prisoners in cages held in "administrative segregation" wait for a group therapy session at California's San Quentin State Prison in 2012.

f. Triple bunking of prisoners in CA, circa 2016.

g. Warren Lilly being force-fed at in 2003 in Waupun C.I. WI (This continued until 2009, see page 22 for more details).

1. The United States makes up less than 5% of the world's population but has nearly what percentage of all the prisoners in the world?

a. 3% b. 6% c. 11% d. 22%

2. *There are now more prisoners in the U.S. than which of the following:*

a. active duty military personnel b. elementary school teachers
c. semi-truck drivers d. farmers

3. *The Department of Defense budget (for 2019) is $686.1 billion. Running the US prison system costs roughly how much per year?*

a. $50 billion per year b. $100 billion per year
c. $500 billion d. $1 trillion

4. *How much more does it cost to send a WI state resident to prison than to the University of WI?*

a. $5,000 b. $7,000 c. $12,000 d. $18,000

5. *Transforming a person into a piece of property is called slavery. Does the U.S. Constitution guarantee freedom from slavery?*

Yes_____ No_____

6. *Over 50 U.S. corporations in the last decade have been exposed for using prison laborers to reduce their payroll costs? One example: In 2016, Whole Foods sold a $12 per pound bag of tilapia that was labeled "from sustainable American family farms." This "family farm" was Colorado prisoners making 9 pennies an hour.*

Circle all the corporations listed below that contract prison labor:

Auburn Prison, NY, 1890

Abbott Labs, American Airlines, Autozone, Bank of America, Bayer, Boeing, British Petroleum, Cargill, Caterpillar, Chevron, Chrysler, ConAgra Foods, Costco, John Deere, Disney, Eli Lilly and Co., Exxon Mobil, GlaxoSmithKline, International Paper, Johnson & Johnson, K-Mart, Koch Industries, Mary Kay, McDonald's, Merck, Microsoft, Motorola, Nintendo, Pfizer, Procter & Gamble, Pepsi, Shell, Starbucks, United Airlines, UPS, Verizon, Wal-Mart, Wendy's.

7. *Are immigrants detained in the US subjected to forced labor?*

Yes_____ No _____.

8. *Violent crime was not responsible for the unprecedented 500% increase in the prison population over the past thirty years. Violent crime rates had been relatively constant or declining over those decades.*

The prison population was increased by:

a. manufactured fear
b. the "War on Drugs"
c. lengthening sentences, e.g. through mandatory minimum sentencing,
d. reductions in the availability of parole or early release
e. racism
f. public policy changes criminalizing more behavior
g. "Three Strikes" laws
h. mean people

9. *Illicit drug use is higher among whites and lowest among African-Americans.*

True _____ False _____

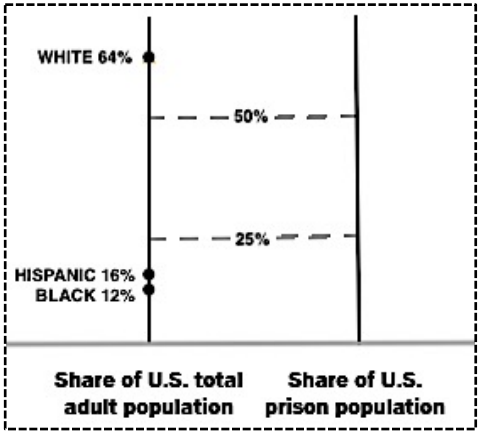
African Americans deal more illicit drugs than whites.

True _____ False _____

10. *As of 2019, roughly 46% of the US prison population—1 in 5 prisoners—is incarcerated for drug offenses. Among the following list of offenses, what are the next 3 most frequent reasons for incarceration?*

a. weapons, explosives, arson
b. sex offenses
c. robbery
d. national security
e. immigration
f. homicide, assault, kidnapping
g. extortion, fraud, battery
h. burglary, property offenses
i. banking and insurance fraud, counterfeiting , embezzlement.

11. *Mark points on the vertical line to show the percentage of each population racial/ethnic group in prison.*



37. For transgender prisoners the rate is reported to be 9 to 10 times as high. The incarceration rate for LGBTQ people in the US is more than 3 times the incarceration rate of the US population as a whole.

38. Utah and Arkansas. Nationally, there were about 16 allegations per 1,000 inmates in 2015. The actual prevalence of sexual abuse in prisons is likely much higher given that fear of retaliation can deter inmates from reporting sexual victimization.

39. False: the data sets being used to train the algorithms are developed by humans (not computers), and thus they not only reflect human bias, but effectively automate bias. Indeed, there is compelling evidence that such algorithms may be racially biased. COMPAS risk assessments, e.g., erroneously labeled white defendants as low-risk 48 percent of the time, compared to 28 percent for black defendants. COMPAS risk assessments were also more likely to erroneously identify black defendants as presenting a high risk for recidivism at almost twice the rate as white defendants (43% versus 23% percent).

They also fail to take into consideration evidence of the rehabilitative efforts prisoners have made for themselves, e.g., having passed their GED, earned a college degree, learned a language, crocheted a thousand hats for premature babies, or volunteered (in some cases for decades) to tutor fellow prisoners.

40. False, the algorithms are proprietary and are not subject to state or federal open records laws; this prevents third parties from seeing the data and the calculations that impact sentencing decisions.

41. Suicide. Tragically 70 percent of those suicides occur before conviction, and within the first month of conviction.

42. WI has 23,000 prisoners, MN has 10,000 prisoners. "Tough on crime" attitudes changed corrections throughout the 90s, and "truth in sentencing", "parole-expansion" laws in WI effectively extended prison sentences by 16% to 18%.

WI currently has approx.18,000 full-time law enforcement personnel, 3000 more than MN. In 2017, total arrests in WI numbered 252,000, which was 100,000 more than in MN. The total number of minors arrested in WI was 40,000, twice the number of juveniles that were arrested in MN. In 2017, one-fifth of the adult prison population in the US was incarcerated for violating the terms of their probation or parole — not for conviction of another crime. In WI over one-third of all admissions in 2017 were inmates whose parole or supervision had been revoked.

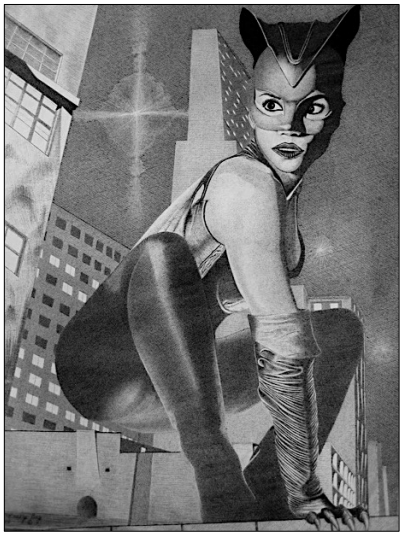
Re-incarceration for technical rule violations is a culture; it is a power tool that keeps Wisconsin's prison population at its max and beyond max. Wisconsin's prison population has more than tripled since 1990, but prison growth has not resulted from an increase in crime. People re-incarcerated without a new offense spend an average of 1.5 years in prison and cost taxpayers $147.5 million.

32. There are currently more than 80,000 men, women, and children in solitary confinement conditions.

33. All of the features are in use in U.S. prisons.

34. LaRon McKinley-Bey spent 28 years in confinement. He sued the Dept. of Corrections in federal court, arguing that the "continued isolation impairs his capacity to process information and function normally, which puts him in a Catch-22 of indefinite isolation that they know he is unable to extract himself from." After a months-long hunger strike, McKinley-Bey was moved from Waupun C.I. to a facility run by the Department of Health Services for inmates with mental illnesses.

Aturn-Ra Uhuru Mutawakkil, another prisoner who participated in the hunger strike, said he had been in solitary for 18 years. In a 2012 blog post, he described his long-term isolation as "a holocaust [that] leaves the body static but alive, incinerates the mind and spoils the soul."



Pointillist ink drawing by La Ron McKinley-Bey, Supermax, WI, c. 2010.

35. Less than 8% of all incarcerated people are held in private prisons; the vast majority are in publicly-owned prisons and jails. The corrections industry has lobbied aggressively to maintain high levels of incarceration, but private prisons are essentially a parasite on the massive publicly-owned system.

Nevertheless, a range of private industries and even some public agencies continue to profit from mass incarceration. Many city and county jails rent space to other agencies, including state prison systems, the US Marshals Service, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Private companies are frequently granted contracts to operate prison food and health services (often so bad they result in major lawsuits), and prison-transport, telecom, and commissary functions have spawned multibillion-dollar private industries. By privatizing services like phone calls, medical care and commissary, prisons and jails are unloading the costs of incarceration onto incarcerated people and their families, trimming their budgets at an unconscionable social cost.

36. More than half of all inmates in jails and state prisons have a mental illness. The numbers are even more stark when parsed by gender: 55% of male prisoners and 73% of female prisoners have mental illnesses. Twenty-one percent have a depressive disorder; 12% are bipolar; 5% suffer from schizophrenia; 7% have PTSD; 8% have anxiety disorders; and 6% have personality disorders.

12. *Across the country, African-Americans are incarcerated in state prisons at more than five times the rate of whites. In 5 states, however—Wisconsin among them—African-Americans are incarcerated at more than 11 times the rates of whites. African-Americans make up 45% of the prison population in WI. What fraction of Wisconsin's total population is African-American?*

a. 6% b. 9% c. 12% d. 14% e. 18%

13. *Fill in the blanks below:*

Native Americans make-up _____ percent of Wisconsin's total population and _____ percent of the Wisconsin prisons population.

14. In 1971, at Stanford University, a social psychology experiment was conducted that attempted to investigate the psychological effects of perceived power, focusing on the struggle between prisoners and prison officers. Twenty-four male (predominantly white) students judged to be the most mature, physically and mentally stable and the least involved in antisocial behaviors were chosen to participate and were randomly assigned to be either "guards" or "prisoners" in a mock prison.

Students quickly embraced their assigned roles, with some guards enforcing authoritarian measures and ultimately subjecting some prisoners to psychological torture. Many prisoners passively accepted psychological abuse and, at the request of the guards, actively harassed other prisoners who tried to stop it. Several prisoners were so emotionally traumatized that they were released mid-experiment (one within 36 hours), and the whole experiment, intended to run for 2 weeks, was discontinued in 6 days.

Experimenters reported that a certain percentage of the guards exhibited genuine sadistic tendencies, e.g., some prisoners were forced to be naked as a method of degradation, some were forced to sleep on concrete, some were required to urinate and defecate in buckets that were left in their cells. Guards forced one prisoner into a dark closet and said he would be released from solitary confinement if all the other prisoners gave up their blankets.

- Of the 11 prisoners not confined in the closet, how many prisoners were willing to give up their blankets?

  a. none b. 1 c. 2 d. 4 e. 7 f. 11

- Of the 12 "guards" how many were judged to have exhibited genuine sadistic tendencies?

  a. none b. 1 c. 2 d. 4 e. 7 f. 12

- Among the 50 people who observed the "prison", how many questioned its morality?

  a. none b. 1 c. 2 d. 10 e. 25 f. 50

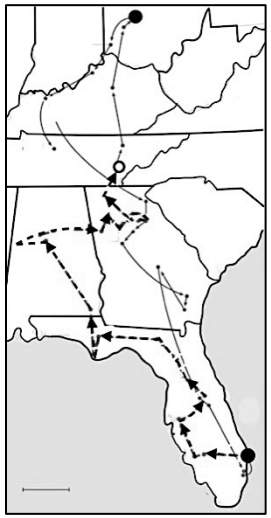
15. *The illustration above is an ad for the US Corrections Special Operation Group Their mission is to improve the tactical techniques and weapons of correctional officers so, as senior leader Joseph Garcia explained, "to be, much more effective at getting the job done quickly, without incident, and without legal ramification….Thankfully, the days of 'hats and bats' are over; nowadays teams are focusing their budgets and training time on becoming proficient with leaner, meaner and more flexible equipment.*

What sort of equipment is Garcia talking about?

a. Raytheon "invisible heat-beam weapon" b. pepper spray
c. concussion grenades d. ballistic shield with 2-point bungee sling
e. Throwbot XT Reconnaissance Robot f. fly swatters g. scabbards
h. self-locking holsters i. AeroDefense drone detection systems
j. 12 gauge shot guns loaded with rubber bullets

16. The map at the right shows:

a. The route of a Mayflower long-distance moving van
b. AAA's Heritage Crossroads Scenic Highway Route tour of the southwest
c. The 2018 'Hell on Wheels' tour of the Mudflats country music band
d. The migratory route of the Florida Dung Beetle
e. The route of a puma that escaped from the Palm Beach Zoo.
f. I have no idea.



27. Larceny - The thief was 9 years old. After being incarcerated at Waupun, he was sent to the newly built "House of Refuge" for juveniles (later known as the Industrial School for Boys).

28. 10,300 youth are detained for technical violations of probation conditions or for status offenses, which are behaviors that are not law violations for adults.

29. Nearly one third of incarcerated youth are 15 years old or younger. Troublingly, more the 500 confined children are no more than 12 years old.

30. It's a matter of opinion of course, but a stainless-steel toilet doesn't really seem like a significant improvement, and the lack of a window, even one with bars, strikes the author as a particularly cruelty. The "window" in the Waupun prison cell, only 4 inches wide (typical in maximum security prisons) is thought to reduce escape attempts since prisoners are unable to oriented themselves with respect to the outside world.

31. The clear space in a single-occupancy cell is typically 45 sq. ft., which is equivalent to the area of a ping-pong table. Cells in newly constructed prisons measure 77 – 87 sq. ft., roughly the same size as the footprint of a van.

The prison cells in cell block A at Sing Sing were among the smallest cells ever built in the US. They were 3½ ft. wide by 7 ft. long and 6½ feet high. Sing Sing's cellblock A built in 1825 is the largest cellblock in the world: 476 feet long, four cells high and total of 800 cells.

Sing Sing cell; exterior of cell block A, interior of cell block A, Sing Sing, NY, 19th century.

Cell for juveniles, Racine, WI

Green Bay Correctional Institution, WI, 2014.

23. The population of women in prison went up over 750% since 1977—more than double the rate for men over the past two decades.

Women in jail, US.

The growth has been driven by the criminalization of drug use and peripheral involvement in drug networks. Taking a message for a boyfriend involved in a drug deal or driving him to the bank can lead to "conspiracy" charges, and the woman can be held liable for the entire amount of drugs sold.

The justice system has also widened the net by criminalizing women's responses to gender-based abuse and discrimination. Other policy changes require mandatory or "dual" arrests for fighting back against domestic violence, increasing criminalization of school-aged girls' misbehavior—including survival efforts like running away. The perennial criminalization of sex work also continues to contribute to the growth of women in prison.

While they are incarcerated, women may face a greater likelihood of disciplinary action and more severe sanctions than men for the same behavior. Disciplinary action works against the ability of all prisoners to earn time their sentences and against their chances of parole.

24. Sixty percent of women in jail are in pretrial detention because they cannot afford cash bail. Every year, over 600,000 people enter prison gates, but people go to jail 10.6 million times each year. Jail turnover is particularly high because most people in jails, roughly 0.5 million, are held in pretrial detention because they are too poor to make bail. Seventy-six percent of people held in jail are not convicted of any crime.

Mother in prison in the US.

25. Sixty-seven percent of women in prison are mothers. There are nearly 200,000 children in the US whose mothers are incarcerated. Over 60% of parents in state prisons were held more than 100 miles from their last place of residence.

26. One in 28 children in the US currently has a parent in prison. Those numbers are much higher when including children with parents under active supervision, parole or probation. Racial and ethnic breakdown is:

White children 1 in 57 or 1.8%;
Hispanic children 1 in 28 or 3.5 %
African American children 1 in 9 or 11.4%

17. *Below, and on the following page, are a number of vintage postcards and other images of punitive practices that were used within the last few millennia in various nation states. Which methods of punishment were never practiced in U.S. prisons?*

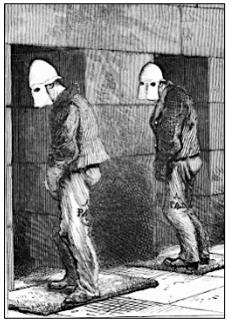
a. the hummingbird

b. lock-step

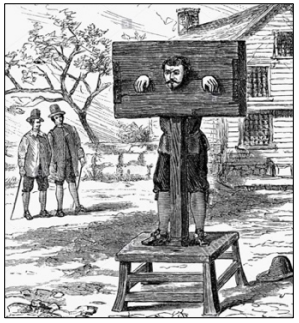
c. crushing

d. the crank

e. branding

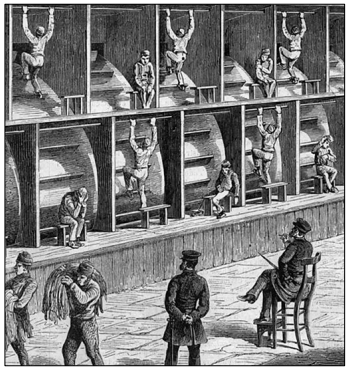


f. hooding



g. the pillory/stocks

h. the "shower bath"



i. the treadmill

j. water-boarding

k. flogging

m. force feeding

18. *In 2003, WI prisoner Warren Lilly was imprisoned on a domestic violence charge. The following year, Lilly went on a hunger strike to protest the high rates of incarceration of African Americans, and the abusive overuse of imprisonment, particularly as it has been applied to nonviolent Americans and the mentally ill.*

In a statement, Lilly argued that it was both a moral and fiscal irresponsibility to imprison nonviolent Americans when community-based options would better serve the individual and the nation. Lilly was shackled and force-fed three times a day Monday through Saturday for 5 years.

In 2009, a WI Judge ordered the DOC to stop the force feedings. This ruling was ordered because:

a. Lilly could die from malnutrition or heart failure.

b. The cost to the state of sending in 6-person Swat teams 3 times a day to force feed Lilly began to be too much of a drain on the WI DOC budget

c. The WI DOC was in violation of medical ethics and the Geneva Convention

d. The WI DOC was violating Lilly's constitutional right to be free of unwanted medical care.

Cell extractions are supposed to be a last resort—say, when an inmate is attempting suicide, but with militarized swat teams on call, supervisors have become accustomed to using them for minor matters, too. Refusal to return a food tray, for instance, is a surprisingly common reason cited by prisons.

"Staff like to do cell extractions because it's an excuse to kick the crap out of inmates. There is no question that many cell extractions are unnecessary and avoidable."
-Jeffrey Schwartz, correctional consultant on disciplinary policies, 2017.

20. Andrew Fastow (as one example of "white collar crime") conspired to help Enron manipulate earnings while skimming millions of dollars for himself. After pleading guilty to 2 counts of conspiracy, he got 6 years with the option to shave up to nearly 2 years from that term with time off for good behavior.

Scott A. Masters was accused of shoplifting a doughnut and pushing a store worker who tried to stop him. The worker wasn't hurt, but with that shove, his shoplifting turned into a strong-arm robbery. Masters faced 5 to 15 years in prison for his crime. In fact, because Masters had a prior record, he could have gotten a sentence of 30 years to life.

21. Ninety-five percent of prisoners will be released; nearly 80% will be released to parole supervision. Parole and probation place conditions on people, depriving them of liberty and often serving as a trip-wire for being sent back to prison, not for committing a crime but for failing, for example, to "work diligently as directed by your probation officer," or associating with persons of "disreputable or harmful character," or for leaving a drug rehab program early, not having a job, or "driving while black". Five out of 10 people return to prison within 3 years of release for parole violations.

Wisconsin has the highest rate of parole supervision among its neighboring states and the lengths of parole are nearly twice the national average. In 2018, about 2,400 WI prisoners remained in prison who were eligible for parole.

22. Having a criminal record essentially makes you unemployable; this is one of the biggest contributing factors to Milwaukee's standing as one of the poorest big cities in the country. Two thirds of Milwaukee County's incarcerated prisoners come from the city's poorest six zip codes.

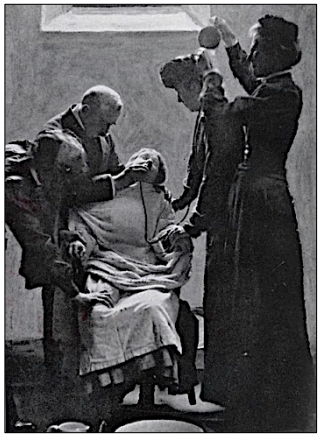
	Unemployment rate general population	Unemployment rate formerly incarcerated
Black women	6.4%	43.6%
Black men	7.7%	35.2%
White women	4.3%	23.2%
White men	4.3%	18.4%

Unemployment rates of people age 35-44 among the U.S. general public and formerly incarcerated population, by race and gender.

Finding employment is a major issue and not only because of criminal records. Over 75% of the jobs available in Milwaukee are outside of the public transit system's coverage where an unbelievable 47% of the people do not have a valid driver's license. Not to mention, the Wisconsin police have ramped up traffic stops, which creates a vicious cycle of incarceration for those just trying to make it.

m. Involuntary force-feeding is common in military and domestic U.S prisons. Guantanamo captives were involuntarily force-fed when they had skipped 9 consecutive meals. Camp medical staff were authorized to strap captives into the restraint chair, force-feed them and then hold them for a period long enough afterwards to prevent the captives from defeating their force-feeding by vomiting. The prisoners were routinely immobilized so long they could no longer control their bladder and bowels and soiled themselves.

The photograph on the right shows a suffragette being force-fed in HM Prison Holloway, UK in circa 1910. The same treatment was applied to suffragettes in the US who were also hunger striking for women's rights.



18. The judge ruled that the WI DOC was in violation of medical ethics and the Geneva Convention, and condemned them for escalating the intrusive-ness, difficulty and discomfort experienced by Lilly (photo of Warren Lilly on page 12).

To his credit, the judge, as part of his review, had himself handcuffed in the same restraint chair used on Lilly, after 10 minutes, he was unable to get up without assistance. Lilly's force feedings average between 20 minutes and 2 hours.

Warren Lilly served in the US Air Force, has a Bachelor's degree in Physics and Computer Science, and credits towards his Masters in Computer Science. For nearly twenty years he was the sole proprietor of Lilly Consulting and System Services in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Lilly defines himself as a secular humanist who believes that the humanity of a person arises not from externally applied laws but from intrinsic values universally shared by all people, and that the primary duty of government is to enhance the value, capacity and worth of all its citizens.

The taxpayer's cost of violating Lilly's constitutional right to be free of unwanted medical care, i.e. of using a 6-person SWAT team to force-feed Lilly 3 times a day cost $400,000 a year, 10 times the average cost of incarcerating a prisoner in WI.

19. Connecticut, Delaware, Iowa, South Dakota and Utah allow guards to use aggressive, unmuzzled dogs for cell extractions, i.e., to "persuade" uncooperative prisoners to leave their cells. Dogs may be ordered to bite prisoners if they resist.

A cell extraction dog.

"Obviously a dog is more of a deterrent [than a Taser gun]. You get more damage from a dog bite. I think it's right up there with impact weapons . . ."
-Mike Knolls, Special Operations Unit, UT, 2005.

9. *One of the most iconic pictures from Abu Ghraib shows an unmuzzled dog straining at his leash a few inches in front of a detainee, who is crouched in terror. Are dogs used in domestic prisons to intimidate prisoners?*

a. no b. only outdoors c. only in federal prisons
d. only with poodles e. only on Sundays f. only on detainees

20. *Which crime will get a stiffer sentence?*

a. embezzling $5 million dollars b. shoplifting a 52¢ donut

21. *What percentage of those currently incarcerated will be released from custody?*

a. 25% b. 40% c. 75% d. 95%

22. *When prisoners are released from prison they have enormous strikes against them: they are barred employment opportunities; deprived of voting privileges in most states; prohibited from getting federal loans; applying for public housing or getting service—in other words, are left without hope or resources.*

Formerly incarcerated people want to work. Their high unemployment rates reflects public will, policy, and practice—not differences in aspirations.

What is the unemployment rate for the formerly incarcerated? Fill in the column below on the right.

	Unemployment rate general population	Unemployment rate formerly incarcerated
Black women	6.4%	
Black men	7.7%	
White women	4.3%	
White men	4.3%	

Hint: The highest level of unemployment ever recorded in the U.S. was 24.9% during the Great Depression.

23. *Which segment of the U.S. population has the fastest growing rate of incarceration?*

a. African-Americans b. Women c. Latinos d. juveniles
e. Asian Americans f. people who identify as LGBTQ

24. *What is the percentage of women who remain in jail without being convicted because they cannot afford cash bail?*

a. 10% b. 20% c. 40% d. 60% e. 80%

25. *What percentage of women in jail are mothers?*

a. 14% b. 27% c. 44% d. 62% e. 86%

26. *More than 2.7 million children in the U.S. have an incarcerated parent. That represents:*

a. 1 in 1000 b. 1 in 300 b. 1 in 150 c. 1 in 90 d. 1 in 30

27. *In 1854, a plan for a juvenile facility in WI was motivated by what crime?*

a. chronic truancy b. theft c. drug use d. graffiti

- *How old was the juvenile?*

  a. 9 years old b. 12 years old c. 17 years old

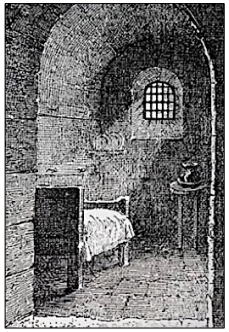
28. *On any given day 63,000 youth, are in confinement in the United States as a result of juvenile or criminal justice involvement. Of the total, how many are locked up for "offenses" that aren't even crimes?*

a. 900 b. 1,600 c. 7,200 d. 10,300

29. *Generally speaking, state juvenile justice systems handle cases involving defendants under the age of 18. (This is not a hard-and-fast rule, however; every state makes exceptions for younger people to be prosecuted as adults in some situations or for certain offenses.) Of the 48,000 youths in juvenile facilities nationwide, what percentage of them are under 16 years old?*

a. 2 % b. 5% c. 11% d. 32%

30. *Compare the prison cells below, then circle all the improvements in cell design in the "state of the art" cell at the Waupun Correctional Institution.*



Newgate, 1870

Alcatraz, 1930

Waupun, WI, 2014

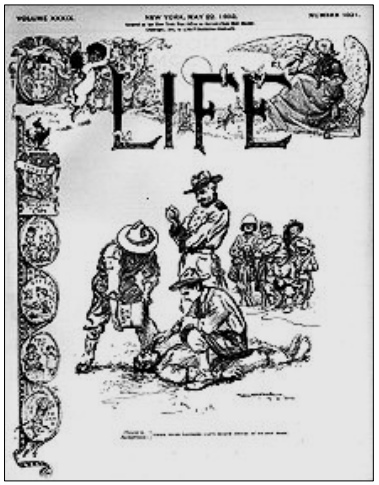
31. *The area of clear space in a modern prison cell is the size of a:*

a. ping pong table b. USDA dog kennel (USDA regulations)
c. parking space d. horse stall

32. *Approximately how many men, women, and children are in solitary confinement in the U.S.?*

a. 500 b. 1,700 c. 12,000 d. 80,000 e. 120,000

j. Waterboarding is a form of torture in which water is poured over a cloth covering the face and breathing passages of an immobilized captive, causing the person to experience the sensation of drowning. Normally, water is poured intermittently to prevent death. However, if the water is poured without interruption it will lead to death by asphyxia.



Waterboarding can cause extreme pain, damage to lungs, brain damage from oxygen deprivation, other physical injuries including broken bones due to struggling against restraints, and lasting psychological damage. Adverse physical effects can last for months, and psychological effects for years.

On the left is the cover of Life magazine (May 22,1920) illustrating the "water cure" by US Army soldiers on a Filipino. In the background soldiers representing various European nations look on smiling. The Europeans say, *"Those pious Yankees can't throw stones at us any more",* meaning that the USA no longer had the moral standing to criticize European colonial practices.

A form of torture practiced during the Inquisition, in 2002 and 2003 the CIA confirmed having water boarded extrajudicial prisoners. Extrajudicial prisoners of the US government in the context of the early 21st century "War on Terrorism" are foreign nationals the US detains outside of the legal process required within US legal jurisdiction—effectively, this means that the US government is maintaining torture centers aka 'black sites', operated by both known and secret intelligence agencies.

The illustration on page 6 is a facsimile of a woodcut in Damhoudère's Praxis Rerum Criminalium, Antwerp, 1556.

k. *"I do not know of any punishment more effectual than the whipping post. If you have a bad man you must conquer him, and if society objects to the means employed, society should bear in mind the character of the convict."* – Warden MO Penitentiary, 1909.

The last state sanctioned flogging in the US was carried out in Delaware in 1952.

Whipping post, DE, circa 1920.

For those curious about the costs of restraint hardware and other "correctional" equipment, here are a few examples: "prison capture hoods" $25.99; straight-jackets $188.00; high security leg-irons $257.18; "safety restrain chairs" $2,165.00, and other items can be found at Handcuff Warehouse and other vendors.

g. The most common sentence of the colonial era was a fine or a flogging, but the pillory or stocks were another common punishment—so popular that most colonies built these before either the courthouse or the jail. US federal statutes provided for its infliction until 1839. Delaware, the last U.S. state to use the pillory, did not abolish it until 1905.

The pillory consisting of a wooden post and frame fixed on a platform raised several feet from the ground. The head and hands of the offender were thrust through holes in the frame, as were the feet in the stocks, so as to be held fast and exposed (in colonial times for example) to public censure and ridicule.

Prisoners in the stocks
Bibb Prison, AL, 1937.

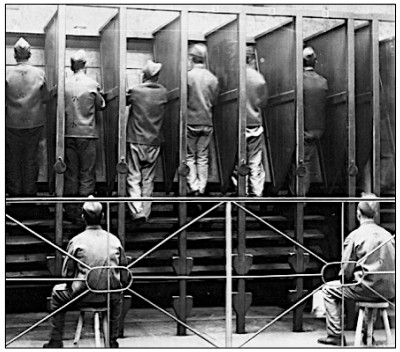
h. In 1858, after a prisoner died at Auburn prison after being exposed for 30 minutes to an incessant stream of water at 32° F, *Harper's Weekly* published a critical article that described the methods of torture that were currently in vogue at Auburn, Sing Sing and other prisons in the US. Ironically, the "shower bath" had come into use after 1845 after a prisoner at Auburn "died under the lash". Other methods employed to "reduce culprits to subordination" were the pulleys, described as "excruciating", and the crown insured sleep deprivation.

The illustration on page 5 is of a prisoner at Sing Sing being subjected to cold-water torture in 1890.

The illustrations on the right above were published in *Harper's* magazine in 1858. The article was titled 'Torture and Homicide in an American State Prison'.

i. Treadmills were used in prisons in the early Victorian period in Britain as a form of punishment prescribed in the prisoner's sentence. Intended to be totally purposeless (like the crank), eventually the manpower was used to mill corn or pump water.

America adopted the treadmill in 1822, installing one in the Bellevue penitentiary in NYC; the second one was erected in 1823, at the Old Newgate Prison in CT.



Coldbath Fields Prison, England, 1863.

33. *What features of solitary confinement and punishment listed below are not in practice in the United States:*

a. confinement for 22 to 24 hours a day
b. permanent bright lighting 24 hours a day
c. use of the "loaf" (a meal is blended together and baked in one lump)
d. extreme temperatures
e. use of pepper spray and tear gas
f. constant screaming and banging
g. extremely limited rehabilitative or educational programming
h. grossly inadequate medical and mental health treatment
i. restricted reading material and personal property
j. use of hog-tying and restraint chairs
k. use of stun grenades
l. the deprivation system, which allows staff to take away the blankets, mattress, clothes, and toilet paper of prisoners.

34. *Most prisoners "living" in Supermax facilities (where solitary confinement is de rigueur) stay there on average for more than 5 years. In 2016, a dozen prisoners in WI prisons went on a hunger strike to protest indefinite solitary confinement. One of these prisoners had been in solitary confinement for over:*

a. 5 years b. 10 years c. 15 years d. 20 years e. 25 years

35. *What percent of prisoners in the US are held in private prisons:*

a. 1% b. 2% c. 4% d. 8% e. 12%

36. What percentage of people in prisons and jails in the US have diagnoses of mental illnesses or show symptoms of mental illnesses when they are booked? This would include those with depressive disorders; manic/depression and bipolar conditions; and other psychotic disorders; PTSD; anxiety disorders; and personality disorders.

a. 10% b. 20%. c. 30% d. 50% e. 70%

37. *People who self-identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual and queer are disproportionately incarcerated. The proportion of women in prisons and jails identifying as lesbian and bisexual is 9 times greater than the 3.4% of U.S. women overall who identify as lesbian or bisexual; gay and bisexual men make up 5.5% of men in prisoner compared to 3.6% who identify as such in the general population .*

Not surprisingly, LGBT prisoners are among those at highest risk for sexual abuse by staff and other prisoners. LGBTQ prisoners face rates of sexual abuse and assault at 4 times the rate of heterosexual prisoners. For transgender prisoners, the rate is reported to be how many times greater:

a. 5 times b. 7 times c. 9 times

38. *Congress passed the Prison Rape Elimination Act in 2003, and the final rule was enacted in 2012, establishing national standards to detect, prevent and punish sexual assault in federal, state and local institutions. Less than half of the states were fully compliant with PREA standards by 2017. Two states would not commit to adopting PREA standards. The two states were:*

a. Utah and Arkansas

b. Texas and Alaska

c. Louisiana and Florida

e. West Virginia and Louisiana

f. Alabama and Florida

39. *The Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS) is a computer algorithm widely used by courts to predict a defendant's risk of recidivism by comparing information regarding a defendant to historical data from groups of similar individuals. Because computers create algorithms, they enhance objectivity and fairness in judicial procedure and sentencing.*

True _____ False _____.

40. *Algorithms such as COMPAS are not proprietary, i.e., the source code is published and subject to state or federal oversight and regulation.*

True _____ False _____ .

41. *According to the justice department, approximately a dozen inmates die behind bars each day, or roughly 4,400 per year. In state and federal prisons, most deaths are health-related – the leading illnesses being cancer or heart disease. In local jails, prisons, top cause of death, making up one third of all deaths is:*

a. drug overdose b. alcohol poisoning c. suicide d. diabetes

42. *Although Wisconsin and Minnesota have roughly the same population numbers and demographics, Wisconsin has more than twice the number of people in state prisons than Minnesota. This difference in incarceration rates is due to the fact that:*

a. Wisconsin has more crime

b. WI police are more aggressive

c. fewer prisoners in WI are being paroled and the conditions of parole have been expanded

d. more prisoners from other states are transferred to WI than MN

e. Wisconsin has more police officers than Minnesota

43. The pay scale for WI prisoners, typical for most states, ranges from a minimum of $_____ per hour to a maximum of $_____.

c. Crushing was used as a method of punishment and execution in England and the US. Arthur Miller's political drama The Crucible is based on the true story of Giles Corey who was pressed to death between the 17th and 19th of September 1692 during the Salem witch trials after he refused to enter a plea in the judicial proceeding against him for witchcraft. According to legend, his last words as he was being crushed were "more weight".

d. The crank machine was a historical form of penal labor used in England and her colonies. In the late 1900s, the US followed suit and by 1895 there were 29 crank machines in use in the US. The crank was attached to four large cups or ladles inside a drum filled with sand. A prisoner would typically be forced to do 6,000–14,400 revolutions over the period of six hours per day (1.5–3.6 seconds per revolution), and the warden could make the task harder by tightening an adjusting screw, hence the slang term "screw" for prison warden. Most of them were abandoned in the early 20th century.

The illustration on page 5 shows a prisoner at the crank handle, Dartmoor Prison, England, 1884.

e. In the North-American Puritan settlements of the 17th century, men and women were branded with code letters for offenses. The letter "A" was for adultery, "D" for drunkenness and "B" for blasphemy. The Union Army also used branding for a time during the American Civil War to mark deserters. (In Canadian military prisons, prisoners were marked with “D” for desertion and ”BC” for bad character.)

f. The notion that silence and isolation can instill virtue was a driving force behind a 19th century penal model known as the "Pennsylvania System”—essentially solitary confinement. As mentioned above (see 15b), in these prisons, prisoners were confined to their cells nearly 24 hours a day, speech was forbidden, prisoners were identified, not by name, but by number, and in some prisons, when prisoners were outside their cell’s hoods were obligatory to prevent prisoners from recognizing one another.

The US (as we well know), in violation of international law, still practices hooding of suspects and prisoners.

At left, a prisoner at Abu Gharaib in 2003. At right, convicts exercising at Pentonville Prison in Australia. The illustration is from 'The Criminal Prisons of London' by Henry Mayhew, 1862.

in criminal or civil court that they were sexually assaulted by guards while being transported. Since 2000, transport vehicles have been involved in more than 50 crashes, 60 escapes and 19 deaths, some like Galack's and Weintraub's on account of gross neglect.

The image at right shows the body of William Weintraub, 47, where he died in 2014 in the back of a prisoner transport van shortly before reaching his destination in Georgia. His trip from Colorado took 17 days to reach its destination. Weintraub, a former physics professor, died of a perforated duodenal ulcer resulting in sepsis.

17. All of the corporal punishments were imposed on prisoners in the US. Variations of some of these punishments are still practiced by the US government in both offshore and domestic prisons.

a. The 'hummingbird' was practiced in Ohio and Illinois penitentiaries in the early 1900s. One eyewitness described the punishment as follows:

"Having been stripped the delinquent was fastened on his back in a shallow metal tank filled with water and connected with one electrode from a dynamo; the other electrode was a wet sponge. Gloved in rubber the operator took the wet sponge and passed it slowly up and down the prisoner's bare limbs. As it went his muscles corded into knots and he shrieked aloud until he fainted."

b. Among notable features of the 19th century prison system known as the "Auburn System" or "congregate system" were striped uniforms, labor groups and the lockstep, which was used to move prisoners in unison through the prison grounds. Prisoners had to look to one side, and were not allowed to look at guards or other prisoners. Additionally, prisoners were only identified as numbers and silence was enforced at all times to take away the prisoner's "sense of self". These practices were considered to be reforms of the so-called "Pennsylvania system" or "separate system" that deprived prisoners of all human contact 24 hours a day except for brief exercise periods, wherein prisoners were hooded and forbidden to speak (see 15f). This compulsory silence was believed to encourage moral regeneration as the prisoner contemplated his moral failings.

Auburn Prison, circa 1850.

Aspects of the "silent system", such as the lock-step and enforcement of silence were being practiced at Waupun prison in WI as late as 1969. As recently as 2010, in some WI prisons, talking among groups of 2 or more prisoners was forbidden.

44. In WI prisoners can buy limited food items, e.g., chips, ramen, spam, and personal care items. e.g. deodorant, soap, hair care products, and miscellaneous items such as pens, paper, Tylenol, etc. from the prison commissaries. The average pay for prison jobs are approx. 20¢/hour. How long would a prisoner have to work be able to buy the 5 following items?

a. 3.5 oz of pepperoni _____

b. no-shank fingertip toothbrush _____

c. Colgate whitening toothpaste _____

d. Gillette Sensor Razor _____

e. Beef bouillon, 3 pk _____

45. If you'd been incarcerated in WI on Jan 24th, 2019 you would have been served the following meal for dinner on Thu. Jan 24th.
in the left column put the quantity in volume or amount, in the righthand column, the caloric value:

QUANTITY		CALORIES
_____	Sloppy Joe	_____
_____	MF bun	_____
_____	Potato chips	_____
_____	Beets	_____
_____	Banana	_____
_____	Skim milk	_____

46. Prison libraries across the country are often antiquated and poorly funded; educational and vocational programs for prisoners are nearly non-existent. Collectively, book to prisoner projects across the country receive tens of thousands of requests for books every month. What is the most frequently requested book or topic?

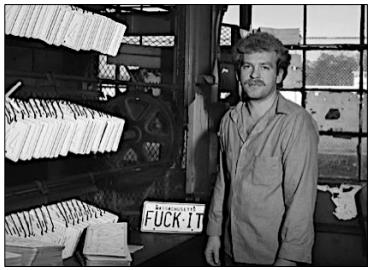
a. The Joy of Cooking b. a collegiate dictionary c. learning how to draw
d. how to start a business. e. Surfing for Dummies f. books on trades
g. Spanish/English dictionary h. The New Jim Crow i. love poetry
j. the Bible. k. Harry Potter books l. books on gardening. m. Thrillers

47. *Among the following 8 photographs below, which one was not taken in the U.S.? Which photo was taken in WI?*

a.

b.

c.

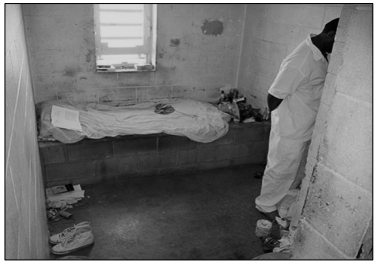


d.

e.

f.

g.



h.

14. Ten of the 11 prisoners were willing to give up their blankets to release the prisoner from "solitary confinement". Four of the guards were judged to have exhibited clinically sadistic behavior. Among the 50 people who visited the prison—which included psychologists, parents, and a bona fide prison chaplain—only one visitor objected to the morality of the experiment.

Despite criticism of the methodology and the experiment's lack of scientific rigor, one-third of the guards exhibited genuine sadistic tendencies. Most of the guards were upset when the experiment was halted after only six days. The experiment demonstrated that the simulated-prison environment, rather than individual personality traits, caused the participants' behavior. Using this situational attribution, the results are compatible with those of the infamous Milgram experiment, where random participants complied with orders to administer seemingly dangerous and potentially lethal electric shocks to a shill.

15. The only incorrect answer is f. Disturbingly, despite its misleading name, the US Corrections Special Operation Group is a private for-profit "corrections special operations contractor ". They train "Emergency Services Units" and other correctional officers in "battle-ready" techniques. Officers learn how to shoot rubber bullets from Kel-Tech shotguns as well as close-quarter combat techniques that include eye gouging and blows to the head. One prisoner who witnessed the handiwork of these militarized officers, described cinder blocks with three-inch craters left after being shot with rubber bullets; severe injuries and deaths have also occurred.

From left to right, "battle-ready" USCPO trainee; Kel-Tech shot gun; rubber bullet injuries.

16. The map shows the route of a private for-profit prisoner transport van that was hired to take extradited prisoners to various locations in other states. Steven Galack, picked up in Palm Beach, FL was being extradited to a hearing in OH dots. He died 3 days later in TN after the drivers allowed other prisoners to attack him in the van after he became ill and delusional.

Every year, tens of thousands of fugitives and suspects—many of whom have not been convicted of a crime—are entrusted to a handful of small private companies that specialize in state and local extraditions. Drivers of these transport businesses are usually paid per prisoner per mile, giving them incentive to pack the vans as many people as possible and sometime spend weeks on the road making pickups and drop-offs on routes that zigzag across the country. They seat violent fugitives next to first-time suspects—many of them whom have not been convicted of a crime. The vehicles typically don't have working seatbelts, air-conditioning, medical supplies or toilets. Within the last 8 years, at least 14 women have alleged

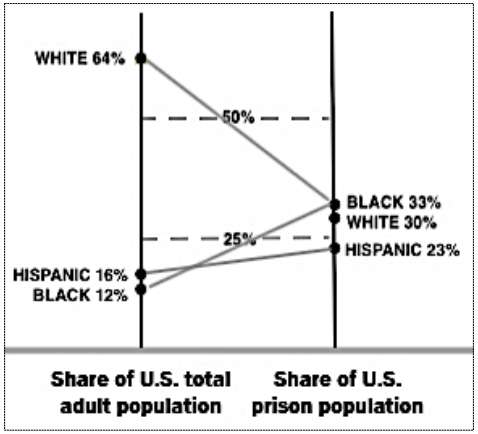
8. All of these attitudes and policies contributed to mass incarceration in the US; the "War on Drugs" (effectively a symptom of racism and white supremacy) was an enormous contributor to the prison population.
"Nothing has contributed more to the systematic mass incarceration of people of color in the United States than the War on Drugs."
- Michelle Alexander, The New Jim Crow, 2010

9. The prevalence of illicit drug use is lowest among African-Americans, incrementtally higher among Hispanics, and highest among non-Hispanic whites. African Americans are no more likely to sell illegal drugs than whites, yet African Americans are arrested for drug-related offenses almost 3.7 times as often as whites. This is largely because the "War on Drugs" has not been waged in white neighborhoods.

Once convicted, black offenders receive longer sentences compared to white offenders. In the federal system, black offenders receive sentences that are 10 percent longer than white offenders for the same crimes. African Americans are 21% more likely to receive mandatory-minimum sentences than white defendants and are 20% more like to be sentenced to prison.

10. After drug offenses, the 3 most frequent reasons for incarceration are:
a. weapons, explosive, arson make up roughly 18% of the total prison population;
b. sex offenses 10%; and e. immigration roughly 6 %.

11. Black 33%, White 30%; Hispanic 23% make up the share of the U.S. prison population. If African Americans and Hispanics were incarcerated at the same rates as whites, prison and jail populations would decline by almost 40%.



12. Six percent of Wisconsin's total population is African-American. In 2018, Wisconsin was ranked as number two in leading the nation in racial disparity in sentencing. Oklahoma was ranked as number one.

13. Wisconsin has one of the highest rates of disparity in the incarceration of Native Americans compared to whites. Native Americans make up 1.1% percent of Wisconsin's total population and 6.6% percent of the Wisconsin prison population.

i.

j.

48. *In an article in Corrections One, an online source of peer support for corrections officers, a Correctional Lieutenant in CA wrote, "To have a long and successful career as a correctional officer, you need a good sense of humor to alleviate stress and burnout. If you can keep an open mind, inmates will entertain you with the things they say and do…. Remember to stay safe but have fun and laugh. It sure makes your shift go faster!" He then listed some "humorous" observations about the job some of which appear below.*

On a scale from one to ten where one is least funny and ten is hilarious, rank the following remarks: You know you are a Corrections Officer if…

a. _____ You've ever looked at a stain on your pants and wondered if it was blood, feces or taco sauce.

b. _____ You can actually read and understand an inmate's illiterate attempt at written requests: "I need a bace for my wrisit."

c. _____ You believe that "Gas 'em till they puke!" is an appropriate use of force.

d. ____ You believe that all prison management should have fought an inmate at least once before evaluating if you have used appropriate force.

e. _____ You have ever wanted to hold a seminar titled: "Suicide...getting it right the first time."

f. _____ You can discuss where you are going to eat with your partner while standing over a dead body.

g. _____ You've ever written off guns and ammunition as a business deduction.

h. _____ You've ever looked at a pool of blood like a Rorschach test: "It looks like two ducks kissing!"

i. _____ You feel good when you hear, "These handcuffs are too tight."

49. *What profession has the highest rates of domestic violence:*

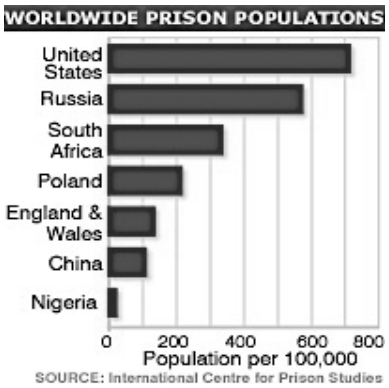
a. psychologists b. plumbers
c. police and correctional officers. d. professional football players

50. *What are the similarities between a prison and pornography?*

a. domination b. exploitation. c. aggression

ANSWERS

1. As of 2018, 22% of all prisoners in the world are in the US. The U.S. has an incarceration rate that exceeds every other country in the world, a reflection of a relatively recent and now entirely distinctive American approach to crime and punishment. The rate is more than five times higher than most countries in the world even though the level of crime in the U.S. is comparable to that of other stable, internally secure, industrialized nations. The vast majority of prisoners–86%–have been locked up for non-violent, victimless crimes.



2. There are 2.3 million people—one in 100 adults—behind bars in the U.S. There are 1.4 million active duty military personnel, 1.5 million elementary school teachers, 1.9 million semi-truck drivers; 2.1 million farmers & ranchers. In addition, 4.5 million—one in 31 adults—in the U.S. are under some form of correctional supervision. And, on any given day in 2018, ICE (US Immigration and Customs Enforcement) had 42,000 people in detention.

3. The price tag of operating federal, state and local prison/jails is approx. $500 billion per year, however, when you factor in the social costs of incarceration, i.e., the consequential costs to families, children and communities, that figure reaches over $1 trillion dollars – a total that eclipses the operational costs of the entire US government.

"Each Prisoner represents an economic asset that has been removed from [their] community and placed elsewhere. As an economic being, the person would spend money at or near his or her area of residence, typically, an inner city. Imprisonment displaces that economic activity: Instead of buying snacks in a local deli, the prisoner makes those purchases in a prison commissary. The removal may represent a loss of economic value to the home community, but it is a boon to the prison [host] community. Each prisoner represents as much as $25,000 in income for the community in which the prison is located, not to mention the value of constructing the prison facility in the first place. This can be a massive transfer of value: a young male worth a few thousand dollars of support to children and local purchases is transformed into a $25,000 financial asset to a rural prison community. The economy of the rural community is artificially amplified, the local city economy is artificially deflated."
– Todd Clear

4. Average annual cost per WI prisoner is approx. $38,000; total tuition cost at UW is approx. $26,000. In other words, we could send every prisoner in WI to college and save $12,000 per person a year.

The operations budget of the WI DOC in 2017 was $1.2 billion.

5. No - At the end of the civil war in 1865 the 13th amendment of the US constitution was introduced. This particular amendment, usually thought to have abolished slavery, actually codified it: *"Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist in the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction."* Thus, after 1865, anyone convicted of a crime could be leased out by the state to private corporations who would extract their labor for little or no pay. This created worse conditions than under the days of slavery, as private corporations were under no obligation to care for their forced laborers – they provided no healthcare, nutritious food or clothing to the individuals they were exploiting.

Currently, with few exceptions, prisoners in the U.S. are required to work if cleared by medical professionals at the prison. Punishments for refusing to do so include solitary confinement, loss of earned good time, and revocation of family visitation. For this forced labor, prisoners earn pennies per hour, if anything at all

6. Of the corporations list, Disney (as far as is known) is the only one that doesn't contract prison labor. About 5,000 people in prison—less than 1%—are employed by private companies through the federal PIECP program, which requires them to pay at least minimum wage before deductions. Another miniscule fraction of prisoners work for state-owned businesses, e.g. in WI, among a prison population of approximately 23,000 prisoners only 459 are employed by, Badger State Industries.

On a national level, only 6% of prisoners have jobs in the state-owned businesses; this reflects the lack of interest states have in rehabilitation or job training.

Prisons, of course, rely on the labor of prisoners for food service, laundry and other operations, and they pay incarcerated workers unconscionably low wages. In 2017, studies found that on average incarcerated people earn between 8¢ and 80¢ per hour. In at least 5 states, those jobs pay nothing at all. Moreover, work in prison is compulsory, with little regulation or oversight, and incarcerated workers have few rights and protections. Forcing people to work for low or no pay and no benefits allows prisons to shift the costs of incarceration to incarcerated people—hiding the true cost of running prisons from most Americans.

7. Yes, CoreCivic (formerly Corrections Corporation of America), under a contract with Immigrations and Custom Enforcement (ICE) is forcing immigrants to work for sub-minimum wages. Detainees who refuse to work are punished with solitary confinement and/or loss of access to necessities. Core Civic, e.g., employs a deprivation system in which officials provide immigrants with inadequate food and basic living supplies and require immigrants to purchase them at exorbitant costs at the commissary.

The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which the US has ratified, states: "slavery … in all [its] forms shall be prohibited," and that no one, including detained immigrants, "shall be required to perform forced or compulsory labor". A suit has been filed in the US alleging that the prison corporation violates human trafficking laws.

CoreCivic's net income in 2018 was $178m, and over the last 20 years they increased their profits by 500%.